

On the Road

ON THE RELIEF ROUTE-S.R.1

Route 7 to U.S. Route 113

Special Announcement

February 1992

DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING FOR ODESSA/TOWNSEND SECTION OF SR-1 TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 20

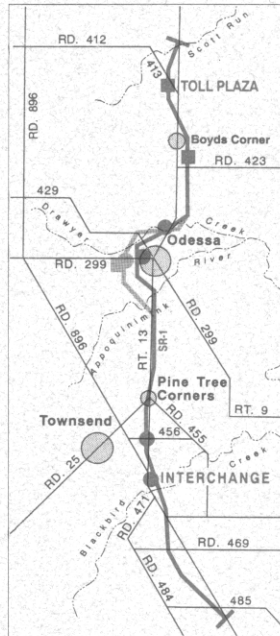
The Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT) has set the date for the design public hearing for the Odessa/Townsend Section of SR-1. The hearing will be held on **Thursday, February 20, 1992, from 4:00 to 9:00 pm**, at the Gunning Bedford Middle School on Cox Neck Road in Delaware City. The hearing will provide the last formal opportunity for the public to comment on this section of the Relief Route prior to DelDOT's request to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for design approval.

The public hearing will have a workshop session from 4:00 to 8:00 pm and an auditorium session from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The workshop session will provide an opportunity to review and discuss the plans in an informal setting. The auditorium session will provide the public with a formal atmosphere in which to give comments.

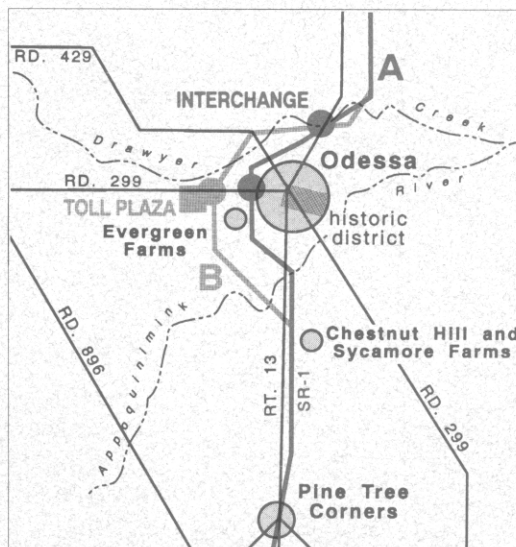
On display at the hearing will be aerial photography of the Relief Route corridor and preliminary engineering plans of the Odessa/Townsend Section. The plans, at a scale of 1"=100', show limits of the right-of-way and details of roadway design—such as interchange ramps, grading, drainage, and property access. Staff will be available to answer questions about the design as well as about property acquisition and relocation procedures.

The engineering plans will show two alternative locations for the bypass of Odessa (see *Odessa-area map*). Both alternatives follow the corridor approved in 1987 by FHWA but maintain Route 13 as a four-lane road. In Option (A), as shown in 1987, the new roadway parallels existing Route 13, skirting Odessa on the west. This alternative has a split interchange with ramps both at Road 299 and at Route 13 north of Odessa. Option (B), preferred by DelDOT, takes a wide swing around Odessa west of Evergreen Farms and has a full interchange at Road 299. This option reduces environmental impacts and improves traffic flow in the Odessa area.

DelDOT will also show two alternatives for SR-1 south of Odessa, near Chestnut Hill and Sycamore Farms. DelDOT's proposal is that SR-1 parallel existing Route 13 on the east. The alternative, proposed by Chestnut Hill and Sycamore Farm residents, shows SR-1 running west of Route 13. ■



The Odessa/Townsend Section of the US Route 13 Relief Route is a 14.5-mile section running from Scott Run, south of the C&D Canal, to Road 485, north of Smyrna. The map to the left shows the location of proposed toll plazas and interchanges. Other improvements proposed along this section include stream crossings at Drawyer Creek and at Appoquinimink Creek.



Two alternative locations for the Odessa bypass are under review: (A) SR-1 parallels existing Route 13, skirting Odessa on the west with a split interchange at Rd 299 and Rt 13, and (B) SR-1 bypasses Odessa west of Evergreen Farms with a full interchange at Rd 299. Option (B), DelDOT's preferred, improves local traffic flow and reduces wetland impacts.



Delaware Department of
Transportation

Kermit H. Justice, Secretary

On the Road is published periodically by the Delaware Department of Transportation and is the official newsletter of SR-1, the US Route 13 Relief Route.

WHAT HAPPENS AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

•Engineering plans will be on display from Jan 21 to Feb 20, between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, at the DelDOT Admin Bldg, US Rt 113 across from the Blue Hen Mall in Dover and at the Fed'l Hwy Admin Bldg in Dover.

•On February 20 the public is invited to submit testimony for the record (1) to a court stenographer one-on-one from 4:00 to 8:00 pm or (2) in a public auditorium setting from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. All comments will become part of the formal transcript of the hearing.

•Through March 6 statements may be mailed to DelDOT Public Relations Section, P.O. Box 778, Dover, DE 19903.

•DelDOT will respond to all comments received at the hearing and through March 6 in a report for FHWA. A future *On the Road* will note where public review copies will be available.

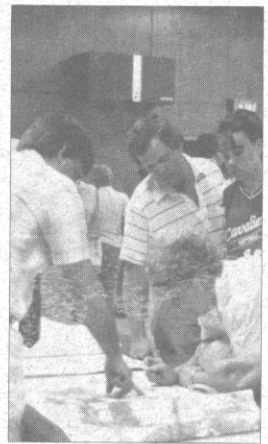
BRIEF HISTORY OF ODESSA/TOWNSEND SECTION OF SR-1

In July of 1987, DelDOT received location approval from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for the entire US Route 13 Relief Route. This event established a specific corridor within which the alignment could be located and set the stage for the design of the new road, SR-1.

In early 1991, with construction of the Smyrna-Dover Bypass underway and design of the St. Georges Section complete, DelDOT initiated preliminary engineering design of the Odessa/Townsend Section of SR-1. The design of this section has been affected by two policy changes since the 1987 corridor approval: (1) designation of SR-1 as a federal toll road demonstration project and

(2) revised traffic projections indicating a need to maintain Route 13 as a four-lane road.

Over the past ten months, DelDOT has solicited comments on design from public resource agencies and local communities and coordinated these with the policy changes noted above. Three public workshops (in April, June and July of 1991) and numerous follow-up meetings have been held to address design issues. The alternatives and preliminary plans to be presented at the design public hearing reflect the outcome of this process. ■



June 1991 workshop in Odessa Fire Hall

TO OUR READERS:

The State of Delaware and the consultant team are committed to continuing the citizen-input process during the design and construction phases of the project. We invite you to write us with questions or comments regarding *On the Road* or to arrange for a presentation to bring your group up to date on the Relief Route. To receive your free copy of *On the Road* as well as other mailings related to the project, please write or call us with your request.

For More INFORMATION

CONTACT DelDOT

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PO Box 778
Dover, DE 19903

- Public Information - contact Michele Ackles, Manager of Public Relations, at 739-4313
- Design Issues - contact Dave DuPlessis, Project Coordinator, at 739-4643
- Environmental Issues - contact Joe Wutka, Location Studies Engineer, at 739-4642
- Right-of-Way Acquisition and Relocation - contact Ira White, Project Acquisitions Manager, at 739-2776

Or CONTACT THE CONSULTANT TEAM

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